

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action, the Examiner noted that claims 1-40 are pending in the application. The Examiner additionally stated that claims 1-19, 21-23, 35-38 and 40 are rejected. By this amendment, claims 12, 16, 18, 20, 30-33, and 35-39 have been cancelled; claims 1, 4, 9-11, 13-15, 17, 19, 21-23, 34, and 40 have been amended; and new claims 41-88 have been added. Hence, claims 1-11, 13-15, 17, 19, 21-29, 34, and 40-88 are pending in the application.

Applicant hereby requests further examination and reconsideration of the application, in view of the foregoing amendments.

In the Specification

Applicant has amended the specification to secure a substantial correspondence between the claims amended herein and the remainder of the specification. No new matter is presented.

In the Claims

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claims 4, 15, and 24 because of informalities. These claims have been amended to provide the proper antecedent basis or clarifications as appropriate.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §101

The Examiner rejected claim 40 under 35 U.S.C. 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant has amended claim 40 to be directed toward statutory subject matter.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objected to claims 20, 24, and 39 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form

including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's consideration and indications of allowability of these claims.

By this amendment, the allowable limitations of claims 12, 16, 18, and 20 have been incorporated into the language of claim 1. Claims 12, 16, 18, and 20 have been cancelled and those claims depending from claims 12, 16, 18, and 20 have been amended to now depend from claim 1.

By this amendment, the allowable limitations of claims 12, 16, 18, and 24 have been incorporated into the language of new claim 65. New claims 66-88 depend from claim 65 and incorporate further limitations.

By this amendment, the allowable limitations of claims 36, 37, and 39 have been incorporated into the language of claim 30. Claims 36, 37, and 39 have been cancelled.

Claim 40 is directed to a computer program product having a computer usable storage medium with computer-readable program code embodied in the medium for providing the apparatus as recited in claim 1. By this amendment, the allowable limitations of claims 12, 16, 18, and 20 have been incorporated into the language of claim 40. Therefore, Applicant respectfully asserts that claim 40 is now allowable. Additionally, new claims 41-64 have been added that depend from amended claim 40 and that recite the limitations of claims 2-11, 13-15, 17, 19, 21-29.

CONCLUSIONS

In view of the arguments advance above, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-11, 13-15, 17, 19, 21-29, 34, and 40-88 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested, and allowance of the claims is solicited.

Applicant earnestly requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned practitioner by telephone if the Examiner has any questions or suggestions concerning this amendment, the application, or allowance of any claims thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: _____